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USDA RELEASES FINAL RULE ON PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS!

On March 2, 2015, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) released the Final Rule on [Professional Standards](#) for school nutrition professionals.

- The Rule goes into effect July 1, 2015.
- This final rule establishes minimum professional standards for school nutrition personnel who manage and operate the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs.
- The final rule institutes hiring standards for the selection of State as well as local school nutrition program directors.
- Current school nutrition professionals are grandfathered in and remain so if they choose to take a similar position within a similar size Local Education Agency (LEA). This final rule establishes minimum professional standards for school nutrition personnel who manage and operate the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs. The final rule institutes hiring standards for the selection of State as well as local school nutrition program directors.

Additionally, the new standards will require all personnel in the school nutrition programs to complete annual continuing education (CEUs)/training. The required minimum CEUs (training standards for all LEAs) are as follows:

- New and current Food Service Directors—12 hours of annual CEUs.
- New and current Food Service Managers—10 hours of annual CEUs.
- New and current Food Service Staff—6 hours of annual CEUs.
- New and current Part-time Staff (employed 20 hours or less per week).— 4 hours of annual CEUs (regardless part time hours).

More information go to [DESE, Food and Nutrition Services](#).



SCHOOL LUNCH HERO DAY

May 1, 2015

Ways to Celebrate

Gear for your School Lunch Hero!

Lunch Lady Graphic Novels

Stories of School Lunch Heroes

www.schoollunchsuperheroday.com

New Missouri Team Nutrition Resources

In school food service, we know that a good connection between the home and school can help develop healthy behaviors in children, such as being more physically active and choosing more healthy foods at school.

Missouri Team Nutrition wants to help engage parents and guardians of school children to support school wellness efforts by providing new and free resources.

The **Healthy Schools. Healthy Kids. Healthy Future. Campaign** has its roots from parent focus groups conducted in Spring 2014. Parents were asked for their opinions regarding factors that are motivational as well as barriers to being engaged in school wellness programs and events.

As a result, new resources evolved that are available free to parent organizations and schools. Resources can be viewed, downloaded or requested through <http://health.mo.gov/living/wellness/nutrition/schoolwellness/parents.php>.



- **Healthy Families, Healthy Snacks and School Wellness 101** provide ideas on positive role modeling; some basic steps for parents interested in school wellness efforts along with a list of healthy snacks that double as healthy snacks for classroom parties! Fact sheets are available to

order and a order form is available in the website.

- A **Nutrition Fact Sheet** shares recent dietary trends in Missouri schools and policy and practice ideas that are evidenced based to improve student behaviors.
- Report on **Engaging Parents in School Wellness: What Parents Had to Say** shares insights from parent focus groups on what schools can do to facilitate parents' involvement in schools.



OR

FreshLIFE
Enjoy a **SALAD** today



Registered schools for either programs receive educational and promotional

supplies. In addition, cafeteria staff receive visors in upper elementary sites or aprons in elementary sites. A \$200 stipend to help defray food costs is disbursed to the schools.

- **FreshLIFE** campaign: - accepting registrations for interested schools at: <http://health.mo.gov/living/wellness/nutrition/freshlife/>
- **Rainbow Days** campaign: - accepting registrations at: <http://health.mo.gov/living/wellness/nutrition/rainbowdayprojects/>

Now, Missouri schools have **two** marketing programs for salad bars targeting elementary AND upper elementary students for Spring and Summer 2015!

Team Nutrition has unveiled the new **FreshLIFE Enjoy a Salad Today!** marketing campaign for middle and high schools offering salad bars. Like its sister program for elementary schools, **Rainbow Days**, **FreshLIFE** is a campaign with a mission to promote salad bars to students for its abundant health benefits and to simultaneously market the school lunch program.

2015 Food and Nutrition Services Summer Workshops

The 2015 Summer workshops registration email will be coming soon and will also be available on the Food and Nutrition Services website.

Provided are the dates, locations and topics for this years workshops:

Dates and locations:

- June 25th - Jefferson City
- June 30th - Kirksville
- July 7th - Cape Girardeau
- July 8th & 9th - St. Louis
- July 21st & 22nd - Kansas City
- July 28th - Joplin
- July 29th - Springfield

Topics to be covered include:

- Smart Snacks
- Professional Standards
- Smarter Lunchroom Solutions
- Local Wellness Policy
- Records
- Calculating Meats & Grains
- Kitchen Records
- Farm to School
- Procurement
- Eating From the Garden
- Team Nutrition Projects promoting Missouri School Meals



Food and Nutrition Services
P.O. Box 480, 205 Jefferson Street
Jefferson City, Mo 65102
Phone # 573-751-3526
Fax # 573-526-3897

<http://www.dese.mo.gov/divadm/food>



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